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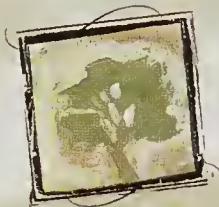
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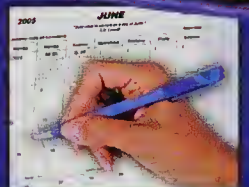
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Roy Lessin

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PSALM 57:1

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Carolina's electric cooperatives provide reliable, safe
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When their prized mounted bear
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had lost Ol' Big Boy forever.

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You "use ta could" do something
and know how to "warp him one."
Round 6.



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Blowing bubbles at Blowing Rock. Peter W.
Morris submitted this photo for our annual
gallery (pages 12-17). It shows his daughter,
Christa, at Blowing Rock, not far from where
she lives with her brother and parents in Boone.
They are members of Blue Ridge Electric.
See another Peter Morris photo on page 12.



Lime angel food cake plus more recipes on page 42.

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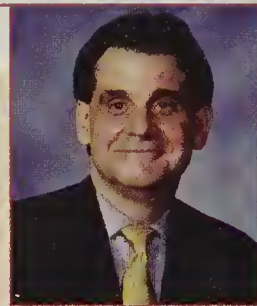
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Putting people first is a good business strategy

By Sheldon Peterson



After nearly a decade of turmoil and experimentation, the rest of the electric utility industry has begun to realize what most co-ops understood from the very start: that profits might be nice, technology might be nice, but in the end, it's satisfying the customer that makes all the difference. That's what sets co-ops apart from other utilities. It's our culture of service.

The co-op difference simply boils down to putting people first. It's a difference that is simple, yet very powerful. It is the heart of the cooperative business culture.

Our unique ownership structure, after all, requires us to put members as our highest priority. But putting people first is not only about how we treat our members, it's also about how we treat our employees. While other utilities were slashing their headcount, co-ops did no such thing. The result? Co-op employees provide a high level of service and professionalism, and I would put them up against any other utility company in this country. If we know anything about running a business, we know, as co-ops, how to put people first.

There is more to electric co-ops than producing, transmitting and distributing electrons.

Every utility does that. But if you take all the electric utility achievements of co-ops and you combine them with the co-op culture of putting people first, the combined entity is greater than the physical sum of the electric system components. Maybe that's why we often refer to the electric cooperative network as a "movement" or a "program." Our unity of purpose and our commitment to put people first inspires member and employee loyalty and commitment.

My observation is that the co-op culture of putting people first is a great business strategy. To the degree that we stay true to that mission, we have found that we have succeeded. To the degree that we have strayed, we have tended to be less successful.

I'm not saying that the money isn't important. As CEO for

a multi-billion dollar finance organization, I know it's important. It's essential for any well-run business to know how to manage its funds. While the financial end of our business is important, it's not the focal point, it's not the mission, it's not the goal. The goal is to put people first, to serve the needs of the members.

In putting people first, we can't lose sight of the primary service we provide to them: electricity. Fundamental investment decisions need to be made, but they can't be made in a vacuum. Our industry is desperate for direction at the federal level. And yet none seems to be forthcoming. It's absolutely shocking to me, particularly after last year's blackout in the Northeast, that Congress is not making long-term energy policy an issue. It concerns me a great deal, and I believe we'll have to pay the piper down the road for this shortsightedness.

We also have seen an increased focus on transparency and governance within corporate

America. Putting people first certainly involves setting standards of accountability and ethics. Given today's Internet technology that makes vast amounts of information instantly available to all people, businesses, including co-ops, simply can't hide information. We all need

to communicate openly with our employees, our members and with other interested parties. And I believe that's a good thing for co-ops, which by nature tend to be more open than other businesses. Because when people see who we are and compare us to other businesses, they find something in co-ops that resonates in their hearts. The honesty, the integrity, the service orientation of a co-op offer an irresistible appeal at a time when people are looking for businesses that are authentic.

Putting people first is a long-term strategy for success. And it's been a long-term goal of CFC from the start. For us, it's all about the relationship, not just about the deal. We're interested in being a partner our members can trust for the long haul.

The honesty, the integrity, the service orientation of a co-op offer an irresistible appeal at a time when people are looking for businesses that are authentic.

Sheldon Peterson is Governor/CEO of the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC), the premier private market lender for the nation's electric cooperatives, who own the corporation. This text is excerpted from his remarks CFC's 2004 Forum held in Boston in June.

Be careful with gas logs

I am a 17-year member of Rutherford EMC. I enjoy and look forward to each monthly edition of Carolina Country magazine.

In the May 2004 issue of Carolina Country, a Randolph EMC member sent in a story about what her family did during snow storms to cope. ["What we did when the lights went out."] She described how she "moved the back log further back in the fireplace, placed a metal stand with heavy wire rack on top of it over the gas burner. This makes the perfect place to set pots, frying pans and an old-timey coffee pot."

In my position as utilities marketing specialist with the City of Shelby, I also caution customers about the dangers as well as the advantages of using natural gas. I would like to caution your readers not to use their gas logs for any purpose other than they were designed: supplementary heat. When the logs are moved from the position indicated in the owner's manual, improper burning can result and cause smoke damage. Improper burning could also create deadly carbon monoxide.

Please caution your readers never to use gas logs for cooking and to place the logs as indicated in their owner's manual. I would like to recommend they install carbon monoxide detectors in their home, too.

Following the instructions in the owners manual can save lives. You can also enjoy cold peanut butter and jelly sandwiches!

Vallery D. McCoy
Shelby

You're from North Carolina

In September 1968 I was in the Army. I was assigned to Ansbach, Germany. After an eight-hour and 15-minute plane ride to Frankfurt, Germany, I took a two-hour train ride to Ansbach. I went to the mess hall to eat that evening and then to the recreation room. Somebody asked what they had at the mess hall to eat. I said, "Some kind of meat and gravy and taters." (We always thought it was horse meat, we didn't know for sure.).

One soldier jumped up and said, "What did you say? I knowed it. You're from North Carolina. That's the only place in the world they say taters and maters."

He was from Greensboro. I left Germany early on a 30-day emergency leave when my father passed away. I lost any contact with this soldier.

John F. White
Mocksville

Saw needed

I am interested in a limb or tree saw that will prune back my limbs and trees that are encroaching into the ROW. This area is not on the streets but more similar to a cross-county transmission line area. Access is limited to my tracked skid steer CAT loader. Any suggestions?

David Croom
Covington
dcroom@cityofcovington.org

What children will say

I was talking to my 6-year-old grandson Jonathan Greene about dogs, and I asked him if he knew Uncle Scott's dog was going to have some more puppies. He looked at me surprised and asked, "Nana, who did she marry this time?"

Doris Ferguson
Huntersville



Super woman's home

I was 2 years old when my parents moved here in 1954 out on Buffalo Shoals Road of Catawba County. I was the 11th of 13 children. Life here was grand on the farm of 60 acres.

My mother started having children at the age of 24, and her last one was at 49. My mother was a super woman to be pregnant and carrying one on her hip, washing bottles, washing diapers and being up night after night with sick children. She would clean during the day for us all. She gave herself for her children at this old home place.

My dad was out working to bring in what he could. Mom and Dad stuck together and made it with us all. He died at the age of 68, 30 years ago. My mother lived on 30 years longer after my dad died. She even helped raise her grandchildren. She saw her last grandchild, my daughter, to be raised up until she was 18. In all she had 14I grandchildren and great-grandchildren. In May of 2002, my mother went on to meet the Lord at the age of 93.

Here at my home place, life was free and full of laughter and love. We didn't have radios or TVs. We only had each other and the farm, creeks and hills to roam and make up fun. Dad used to set us down in the evening and play the guitar and sing us a song. I have so much to be thankful for in my younger years here at my old home place.

Cathy Keener
Catawba

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Hurricane Alex surprises Ocracoke and Hatteras islands

Outer Banks residents expected a tropical storm of heavy rain and gusty winds Monday, Aug. 2, but by noon the following day the season's first hurricane, named Alex, was a Category 2 whipping 70-mile-per-hour winds.

Hatteras and Ocracoke Island residents lost electric power Tuesday, Aug. 3, and soon relied on diesel-powered generators owned by the Touchstone Energy cooperatives. By late Wednesday, the cooperative serving Ocracoke had restored power, while Cape Hatteras Electric on Hatteras was reconnected soon after on Thursday.

Local officials were caught off guard by the intensity of the storm. After it had passed, they ordered non-residents to leave Ocracoke by ferry in order to allow residents and emergency personnel to clean up. They allowed tourists to return on Saturday. More than 300 vehicles on Ocracoke were flooded.

Some dunes built to protect roadways and utility poles after Hurricane Isabel on Sept. 18, 2003, were virtually leveled by Hurricane Alex, closing portions of the barrier islands' main road Hwy. 12. As it approached the island, the storm's 70-mph winds sent the Pamlico Sound's shallow water westward, and as the storm departed that water surged back to flood the soundside of Hatteras and Ocracoke. Electric co-op linemen had difficulty reaching some areas because of flooding.

Tideland Electric's 2,100 meters on Ocracoke stopped at about noon Aug. 3 when transmission was cut off from Hatteras Island. Some 22 poles along Hwy. 12 needed replacing. The co-ops' 3-megawatt generator supplied power continuously until the main distribution system was rebuilt. The generator is designed to supplement existing power supplies during the busy vacation season, but not to carry the entire island which on Tuesday morning was using 4.5 megawatts. Tideland Electric opened circuits on a two-hour on, two-hour off basis to allow residents to keep perishables refrigerated and conduct routine tasks. The co-op sent emergency personnel by ferry to Ocracoke the morning of Aug. 4. Late that night power was fully restored, and the co-op turned to helping those who suffered flood damage.

Hatteras Islanders said the soundside flooding was the worst in recent memory. Cape Hatteras Electric had restored power to its system by the afternoon of Aug. 5. Crews from Roanoke Electric, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, Halifax EMC and contractors Lee Electric and tree crews came to help. CEO Jim Kinghorn thanked the crews and said, "CHEC would like to thank our members for their patience and cooperation during the restoration process. Our appreciation goes out to so many. Thanks to all the local businesses, restaurants and residents for their support and for providing food and supplies. CHEC could not have accomplished so much in such a short period of time without the help of everyone involved."



Hurricane Alex on Aug. 3 caused a four-foot surge from Pamlico Sound to flood Ocracoke and much of Hatteras Island. This photo shows the substation yard outside the Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative office during the flooding.

Electricity is still a good value

Electric rates have been relatively stable for so long that it's understandable that many of us may take the value of electricity for granted. We come home from work or play, step inside the door and flip that light switch. We head for the kitchen to start dinner, pulling out supplies from the refrigerator and heating them up on the electric range or in the microwave oven.

Considering the current high cost of oil, gasoline, propane and other fuels, electricity is a tremendous value. Better yet, the cost of electricity remains remarkably stable when compared to the volatile prices of these other methods of powering home water heating and air conditioning.

Here are some graphics comparing the cost of routine consumer activities with the cost of supplying an average North Carolina home with electricity during the course of a year.



One tank of gasoline (20 gallons @ \$2.00/gal)
= 14 days of electric service



One movie ticket, medium popcorn and soda
= 5 days of electric service



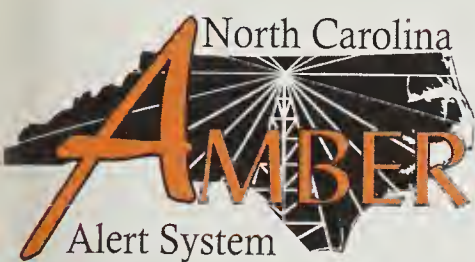
One fast food lunch = 2 days of electric service



One cup of gourmet coffee = 1 day of electric service

Source: Meeker Cooperative and East Central Energy in Minnesota.

Co-op personnel will be eyes and ears for Amber Alert program



North Carolina's Touchstone Energy cooperatives have joined the state's Amber Alert program and will provide the network with eyes and ears in rural North Carolina.

The Amber Alert program is designed to safely recover missing children who are in danger of serious injury or death. When an Amber Alert is dispatched by law enforcement, electric cooperative personnel will then relay the alert instantly to personnel in the field via electronic messaging.

The electric cooperatives of North Carolina are located in 93 of the state's 100 counties and deploy approximately 1,400 linemen, field technicians and engineers in the communities every day. Many times, they're working in the most remote parts of the state, places where police patrols don't often come by.

North Carolina's electric cooperatives serve the largest geographic area of the state's electric utilities. Territory outside a formal city limit is usually served by one of the state's 27 electric cooperatives. The co-ops maintain 90,000 miles of power lines, by far the most of any electric utility serving North Carolina.

The addition of such a wide geographic distribution of personnel, often in out-of-the-way areas, should prove a major asset to the state's Amber Alert system. Time is precious during abduction. A recent U.S. Department of Justice report determined that in 40 percent of 115 juvenile abductions studied, the child was murdered usually within 24 hours of abduction. However, a study by the Washington state Attorney General's Office indicated that in 75 percent of child abduction-murder cases studied, death occurred within the first three hours of kidnapping.

The North Carolina Amber Alert System was first activated in June 2002 and resulted in a Franklin County infant being returned unharmed from a babysitter who abducted the child and transported it to another county.

Inclusion in the Amber Alert program is a part of the 60-year history of North Carolina's Touchstone Energy cooperatives' commitment to its communities.



Be alert to overhead power lines near fields.

Stay safe during harvest time

The fall season for some means hours of harvesting crops in the fields. To make sure this harvesting season is a safe one, follow these tips prepared by the Kansas State University Research and Extension Department:

- Listen to your body. Even though you have a lot of work to do in a short period of time, don't operate heavy machinery when you are tired.
- Be aware of overhead power lines.
- If you are moving large equipment near power lines, it is a good idea to use a spotter, or someone to tell you if you get too close to power lines.
- Make sure your machinery is running properly. Perform routine maintenance according to the operation manual and have safety guarding in place at all times.
- Be trained to use the machinery before you operate it.
- Do not take riders. One seat means one rider.
- Never try to raise a power line to get equipment under it.



Co-op staff who often work rural areas can communicate information about suspicious activity.

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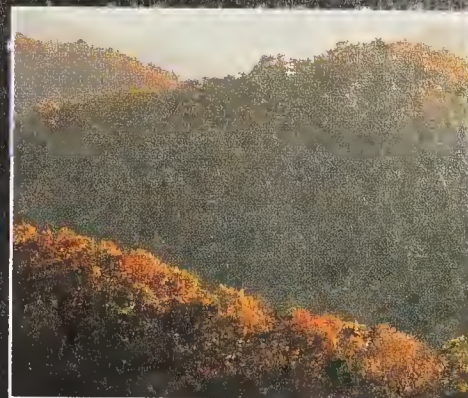
Diseases such as exotic Newcastle disease (END) can devastate even small flocks and backyard poultry. Preventing the spread of these diseases requires only a few simple steps. To find out how you can protect your birds and what to do if you have a sick bird, visit the USDA Web site at **www.aphis.usda.gov/vs**.



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Each year, we gain such insight while looking through your favorite photos. These shots provide us with an intimate look at what is meaningful and poetic in your lives. We see the beauty in a rabbit hiding in a snowdrift or in an image reflected in a pool of water, just after a hard rain. Judging them is always difficult and heartwrenching when some have to be set aside. But you'll find a few extras that didn't make this month's magazine at www.carolinacounty.com and we may run some in future magazines. Thanks to everyone. See page 15 for themes in our "Nothing Could Be Finer" series.

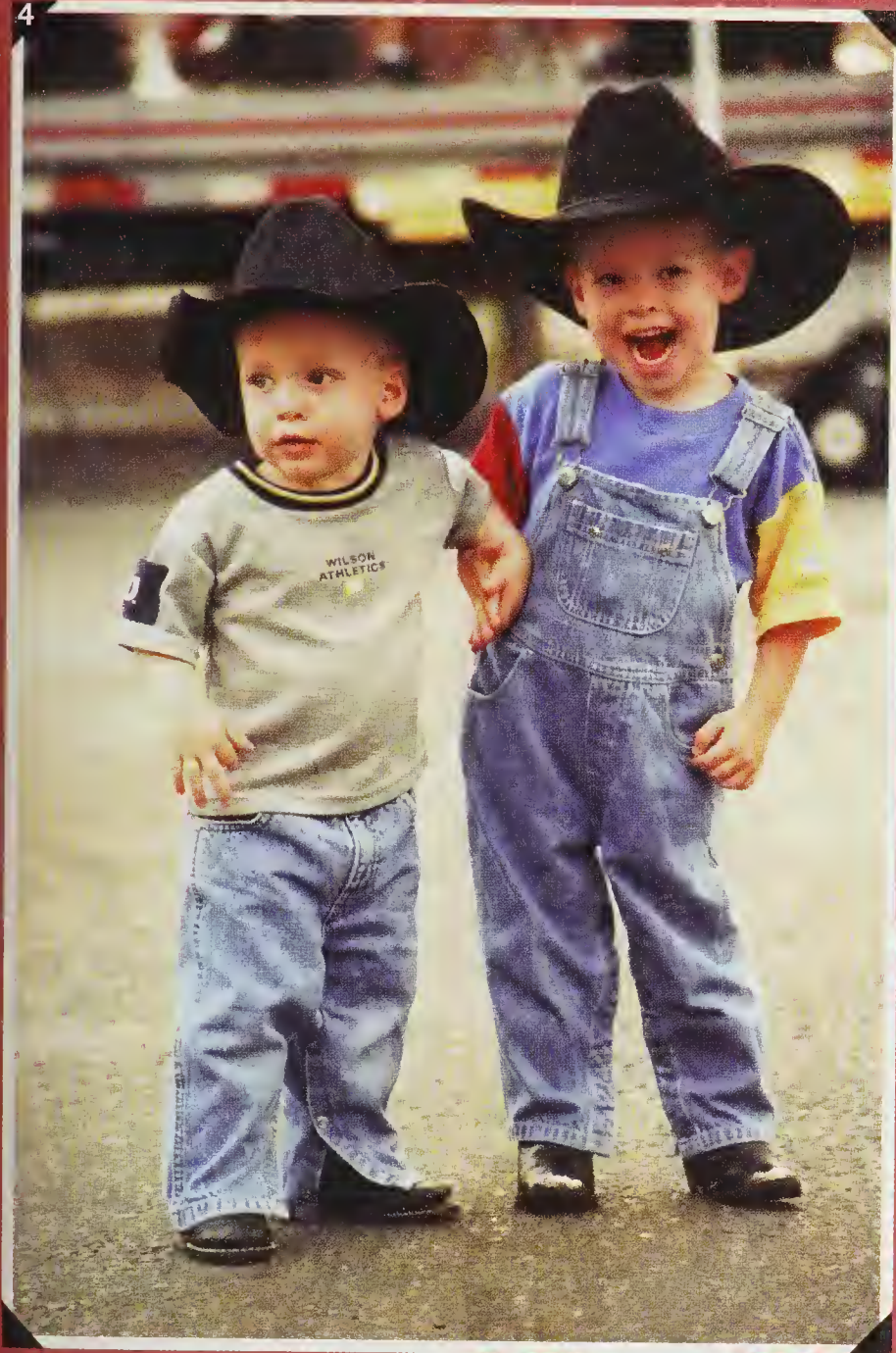
—Tara Verna, creative director



Scenes from CAROLINA COUNTRY

A gallery of your favorite photos

4



1 SIBLINGS WALK THE BOONE FORK TRAIL

The two little children, walking on the Boone Fork Trail in the Price Park area of the Blue Ridge Parkway, are my daughter, Christa, and son, Jonathan.

Peter W. Morris / Boone / Blue Ridge EMC

2 BEAR COOLS OFF

My family visited the N.C. Zoo in May 2004. It was a warm day and this grizzly bear had the right idea for cooling off!

Amanda Wootten / Wake Forest / Wake EMC

3 SNOW BUNNY

During the 8-inch snowfall of this year, I found a bunny on my front porch, hopefully keeping warm buried in the snow.

Occie Long / Stanfield / Union Power

4 CHECK OUT MY MOVES Y'ALL

Levi and Justin Johnson are having fun dancing and putting on a show at a 50th Anniversary event for the Squeeze Box in Pilot Mountain.

The boys love to wear their cowboy hats and boots. In fact, every time they leave the house, this is what they want to wear.

Lisa Johnson / Lowgap / Surry-Yadkin EMC

5 GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN AT DUSK

Wayne Sumner / Boone / Blue Ridge EMC

continued on p. 14





1 AUTUMN JOY IN NORTH CAROLINA

Joyce Beckley / Monroe / Union Power

2 A DAY AT THE OLD SAWMILL

J.L. Garner of Robbins sharpens his blade, in preparation to saw logs as his family has done for years.

Samuel Brewer / Bear Creek / Randolph EMC

3 FIRST MOTORCYCLE RIDE AT 90

This was my first motorcycle ride on my 90th birthday. I was born in August 1913.

Winnie M. Piavis / Union Grove / EnergyUnited

4 WET WEEKEND IN WILMINGTON

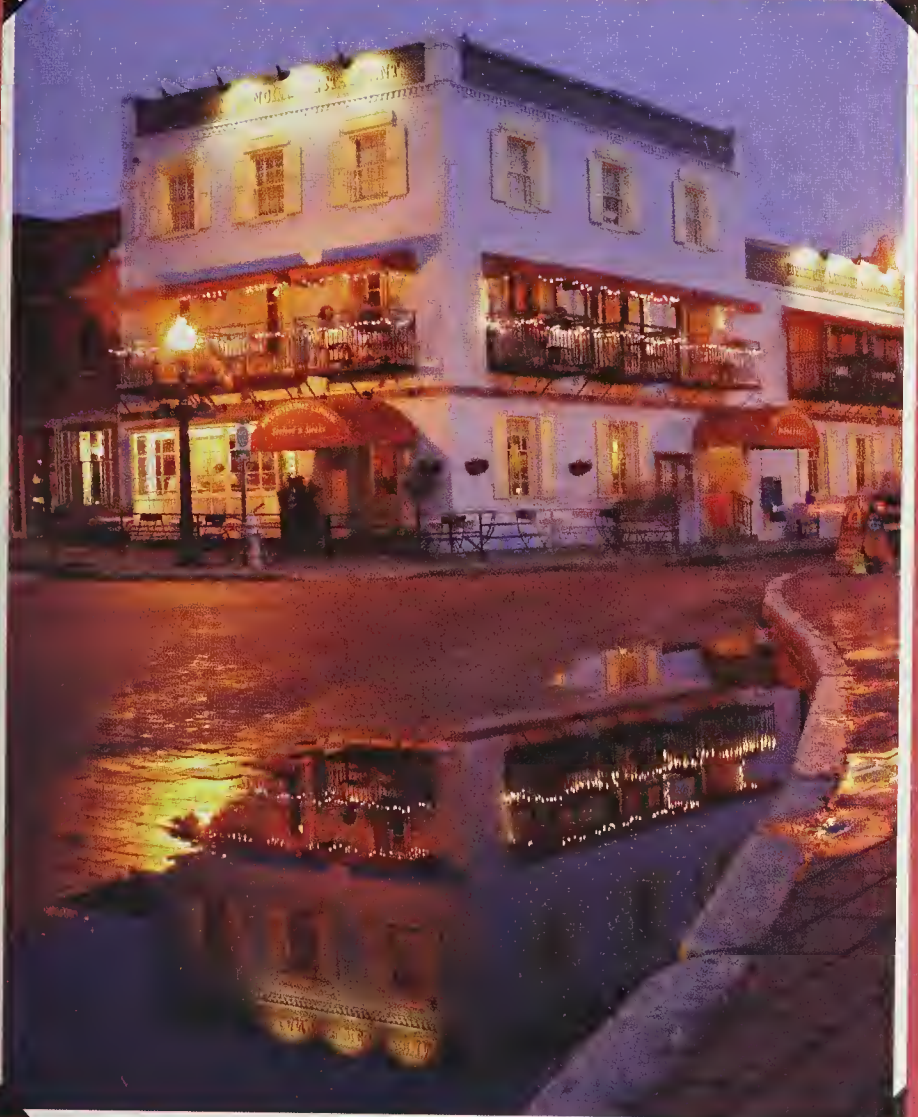
As I was walking through the old market section of Wilmington after a rainy weekend, I saw this restaurant reflected in a pool of standing water on the old cobblestone street.

Francis Bryand / Monroe / Union Power

5 IF A FROG TURNS INTO A PRINCE...

This is my 16-year-old grandson Randy at Lake Lookout in Catawba County. So many teenagers are "into girls" but Randy would rather be kissin' fish than kissin' girls. Way to go Randy—keep that thought!

Darlene Jackson / Statesville / EnergyUnited



Send us your best Earn \$50

Here are the themes in our "Nothing Could Be Finer" series. Send us your stories and pictures about these themes. If yours is chosen for publication, we'll send you \$50. You don't have to be the best writer. Just tell it from your heart.

NOVEMBER 2004

"Mama's Cooking Was Always the Best"

Send a recipe, if you have one, and photos.

Deadline: Sept. 15

DECEMBER 2004

"Meeting Your Grandparents"

Something you never knew about a grandparent.

Deadline: Oct. 15

JANUARY 2005

"The Best Investment I Ever Made"

What was it and why.

Deadline: Nov. 15

FEBRUARY 2005

"Finally On My Own"

Tell us about the first place you lived on your own. Send pictures.

Deadline: Dec. 15

MARCH 2005

"Whacky Plants"

Pictures of strange-looking or unusual garden plants or produce.

Deadline: Jan. 15

APRIL 2005

"Road Trip Horror Stories"

Where did you go and what happened? Send pictures.

Deadline: Feb. 15

MAY 2005

"Safety Lessons"

Accidents and mishaps that taught you a safety lesson.

Deadline: March 15

JUNE 2005

"On the Farm"

The best things about growing up or living on a farm.

Deadline: April 15

The Rules

1. Approximately 200 words or less. We retain reprint rights.
2. Only one entry per household per month.
3. Photos are welcome. Digital photos must be 300 dpi and actual size.
4. E-mailed or typed, if possible. Otherwise, make it legible.
5. Include your name, e-mail co-op, mailing address and phone number.
6. If you want your entry returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. (We will not return others.)
7. We pay \$50 for each submission published.
8. We will post on our Web site more entries than we publish, but can't pay for those submissions. (Let us know if you don't agree to this.)
9. Send to: Nothing Finer, Carolina Country, 3400 Sumner Blvd., Raleigh, NC 27616. Or by e-mail: carolina.country@ncemcs.com. Or through the Web: www.carolinacountry.com

continued on p. 16



1 FALL COMES TO NORTH CAROLINA

Dewey Bumgarner / Morganton / Rutherford EMC

2 MORNING GLORY MAGIC

My grandmother passed away shortly after this photo was taken. She loved to sit on our back porch and watch the birds eat out of the feeder when it was covered with Morning Glories.

Melissa Griffin / Rosman / Haywood EMC

3 THREE-WHEELIN' IN THE MUD

Doug & Heather Higgins / Rutherfordton / Rutherford EMC

4 ELIZABETH CITY HARBOR SUNSET

The Camden Causeway offered a beautiful sunset view, just one day after the 2004 President's Day snow.

Amie Aydlett / Camden / Albemarle EMC

5 PERFECTLY PERCHED FELINE

While stuck in traffic in Boone, my fiancé noticed this cat in the window.

Lori Smale / Morganton / Rutherford EMC

6 CENTER OF GRANDPA'S HEART

After developing a three-year-old roll of film, I found a confusing picture. I studied the photo and saw that my husband Wayne

had gone outside in the snow to take a photo of our grandson Cameron through the window. Cameron was inside, leaning over the back of a chair. The reflection in the window's glass and from the mirror behind Cameron made for an odd collage.

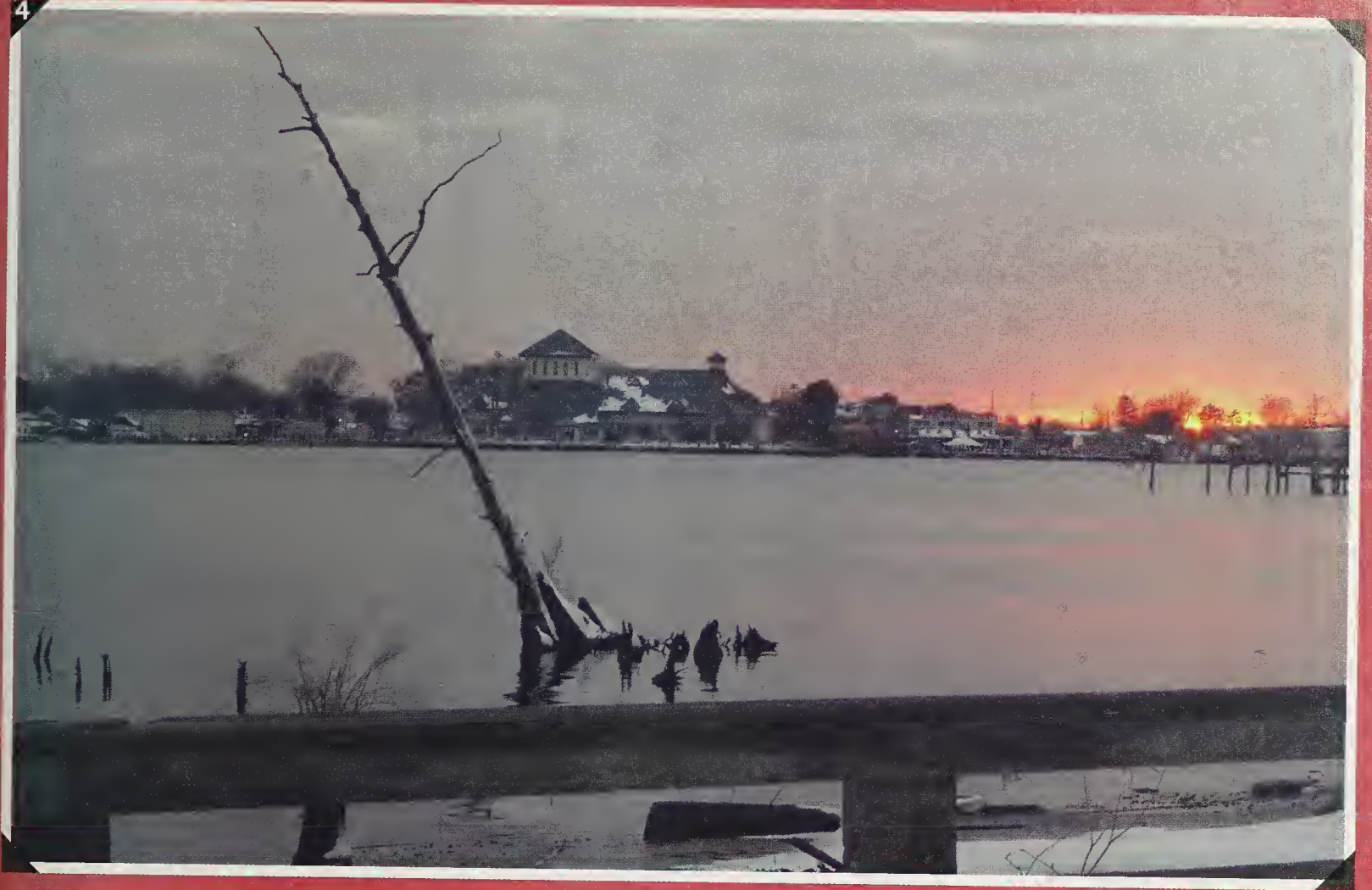
Patricia Simmerer Hoyle / Morganton / Rutherford EMC

7 MINI-GEORGE CELEBRATES THE 4TH

Ten-month-old Ridge Hardee got into the Fourth of July spirit by portraying George Washington crossing the Delaware during a parade in Matthews.

Shelly Hardee / Waxhaw / Union Power

4



5



6



7





Hatteras/Little Hatteras:

ISABEL BREACH

Photography by Peter Hornby

On Sept. 18, 2003, Hurricane Isabel tore up eastern North Carolina and delivered one of the most destructive blows ever to Hatteras Island in particular. This photograph, taken by Peter Hornby nearly a month after the storm, shows Hatteras Island looking north. The famous Cape Hatteras Lighthouse is a small white streak at the very top and in the center of the photo. Cape Point swings out to sea.

A flooding tide in the Pamlico Sound opened an inlet, seen in this photograph, that cut Hatteras Island in two. Residents began referring to the southerly portion that includes Hatteras Village as "Little Hatteras."

At this stage, Cape Hatteras Electric Cooperative had restored power to all places that were possible to reconnect. Temporary poles are visible crossing the inlet and new ones line roadways.

Peter Hornby, who lives on Hatteras Island and in Maine, commented about how amazing it seemed to look at the new inlet and see water flowing from the Pamlico Sound eastward into the ocean. A massive governmental effort eventually filled in the breach and connected the two ends of Highway 12. Seen here snaking up the beach is the dredge pipe carrying sand from near Hatteras Inlet.

Peter Hornby has recently made prints of this scene available for mail order delivery. They are printed on heavy, postcard stock and measure 12 by 18 inches. The price is \$7, including shipping. Checks can be payable to P.R. Hornby. Prints will be mailed flat.

Contact Peter Hornby at P.O. Box 7099, Ocean Park, ME 04063. Or reach him at P.O. Box 456, Avon, NC 27915.

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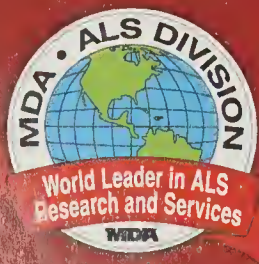
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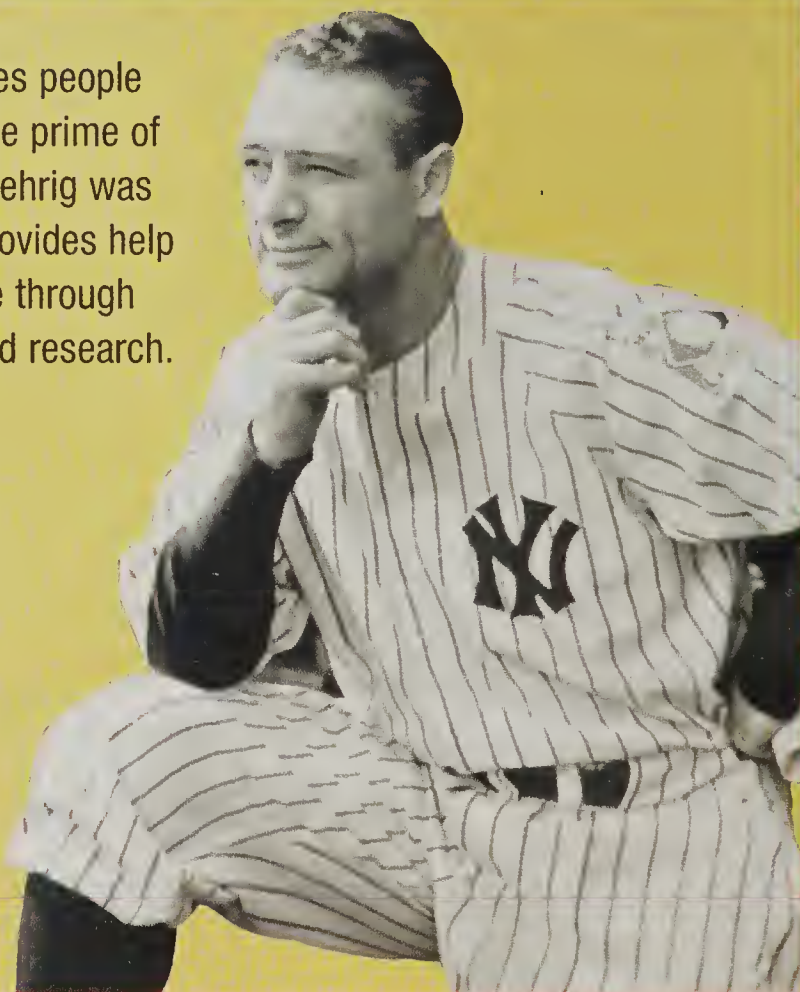
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THE NEW PISGAH COVERED BRIDGE

Photography by Ray Garner

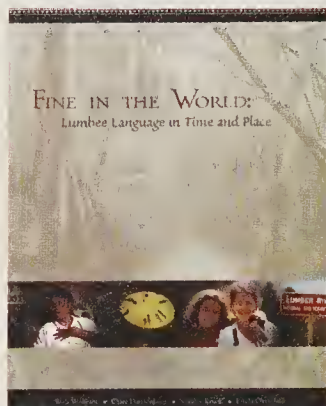
The Pisgah Covered Bridge spanning the Little River about 10 miles southwest of Asheboro in Randolph County was destroyed by floodwaters in August 2003. Local volunteers, including several from Randolph Electric Membership Corporation, cleaned up the area after the collapse and salvaged what they could.

A reconstruction effort, coordinated by the North Carolina Zoological Society, succeeded in rebuilding the 51-foot bridge on its original foundation. Randolph EMC volunteers helped during rebuilding as well.

Photographer Ray Garner of Seagrove sent this photograph of the bridge to Carolina Country this summer. "The people who rebuilt the bridge did a great job," Garner said. "It should stand for future generations to see it."

Ray Garner can be reached at 2459 NC Hwy 705, Seagrove, NC 27341. Or by e-mail: raydom@rtmc.net

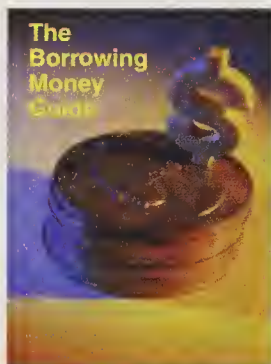
ON THE BOOKSHELF



"Fine in the World"

What, exactly, is Lumbee English? How did it develop? Stripped of their ancestral language generations ago, the Lumbee Indians of Robeson County created a unique dialect of English to maintain their identity. "Fine in the World: Lumbee Language in Time and Place" takes a narrative textbook look at the Lumbee's linguistic adaptability and perseverance. Authored by Walt

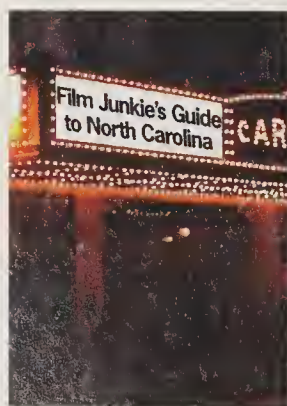
Wolfram, Clare Dannenberg, Stanley Knick and Linda Oxendine. Color and black and white photographs. Published by North Carolina State University. Softcover, \$16.05. Call (910) 521-6282 or visit www.uncp.edu/nativemuseum/shop



"The Borrowing Money Guide"

This how-to book was written to help consumers get straight answers on how to properly borrow money and save hundreds, even thousands, of dollars. The step-by-step guide addresses events that people encounter throughout their lifetimes such as buying a first house, refinancing a mortgage, understanding consumer loans and handling credit issues, including identity theft. Author Joseph R. Miller, who earned

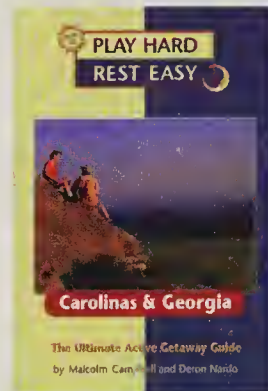
an advanced banking degree at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, especially wants to teach young people the importance of building and maintaining good credit and how to avoid costly credit mistakes. Published by JLM Publishing in Washington, N.J. Softcover, \$14.95. Call (704) 896-1663 or visit www.theborrowingmoneyguide.com



N.C. movie locations

Did you know that parts of the Tom Cruise movie "Days of Thunder" were filmed at Lowe's Speedway in Charlotte? Or that actress Julianne Moore is a North Carolina native who returned to shoot "Hannibal" in Asheville? "Film Junkies Guide To North Carolina" blends pop culture with movie history, and lists more than 160 movie sites arranged geographically across the state. From

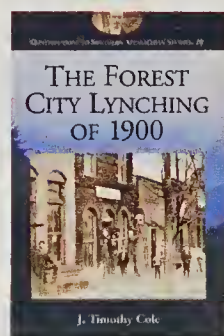
Wilmington waterfronts to an Asheville mansion, "Film Junkies Guide" tells readers how to find movie locations and describes the cinematic contexts in which the sites appeared. Authored by Connie Nelson and Floyd Harris, who live in Wilmington. John F. Blair, Publisher, based in Winston-Salem. Softcover, \$16.95. Maps and black and white photos. Call (800) 222-9796 or visit www.blairpub.com



Active getaways

Who says playing hard means you have to rough it? "Play Hard, Rest Easy" covers high-energy recreation, stylish lodging, and great dining across the Carolinas and Georgia. This new guidebook profiles 12 scenic vacation regions, with detailed information on mountain biking, paddling, scuba diving, hiking, and rock climbing, as well as elegant

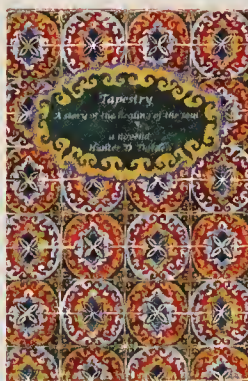
restaurants, inns and other properties with experience hosting active travelers. Locations include the Outer Banks, Wilmington, the High Country and Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Authors Malcolm Campbell and Deron Nardo, both of Charlotte, included such detailed information as restaurant wine lists, antique shopping and performing arts venues. Black and white photos and maps. Published by Walkabout Press in Charlotte. Softcover, \$19.95. Call (800) 231-3949 or visit www.walkaboutpress.com



Forest City lynching

A century ago, a growing population, an agricultural crisis, a developing textile industry and race relations inflamed Rutherford County. "The Forest City Lynching of 1900" examines racism in Rutherford County, and documents the murder and lynching of Avery Mills after he allegedly murdered Mills Higgins Flack. Author J. Timothy Cole of Greensboro discusses the phenomena of

racial lynching, the county's Populist movement, the white supremacy movement of the state's Democratic Party and the county's Ku Klux Klan activities. Published by McFarland & Company of Jefferson. Softcover, \$30. Black and white photos and drawings. Call (800) 253-2187 or visit www.mcfarlandpub.com



Story about healing of soul

In "Tapestry: A Story of the Healing of the Soul," Olivia, age two, loses her adored big brother. Deciding subconsciously that loving was a painful emotion, Olivia struggles with issues of shyness, doubt and faith throughout her life. Later, as she waivers over giving herself fully over to a relationship, a powerful spiritual moment helps her heal. Author Hunter Darden of Statesville wrote this novella to understand

her own grieving process after losing a sibling. Sunfleur Publications Inc. of Statesville. Hardcover, \$14.95. Call (704) 873-5516 or visit www.booksbyhunter.com

"Sometimes I Talk, Sometimes I Sign"

"Sometimes I Talk, Sometimes I Sign" is an illustrated, multi-language children's book that provides text in English, Spanish, Sign Language and French. The story has Sarah Ana talking about her daily life and her birthday party plans with her hearing mother in spoken English and her deaf father in sign language. The author, Dr. Anne Macintosh, is on the faculty at Central Piedmont Community College and a member of EnergyUnited. The book is \$19.95 plus shipping and handling. Call (704) 330-6212. Or send e-mail to Susan Alford at susan.alford@cpcc.edu. Or visit www.cpccservicescorp.com.



DOT installs Historic Albemarle Tour signs

The N.C. Dept of Transportation Highways Division has installed over 100 new Historic Albemarle Tour (HAT) signs along the heritage trail's major thoroughfares. Mileage and directional signs were added in the 17-county northeastern North Carolina region that is home to the Historic Albemarle Tour's member sites and towns.



The project is 90 percent completed. Once construction on several roadways in the region is completed (such as US 64 from Plymouth to Manteo), the rest of the signs will be installed. Major highways on the Historic Albemarle Tour are US 64, US 264, US 158/168, NC 12, and US 17.

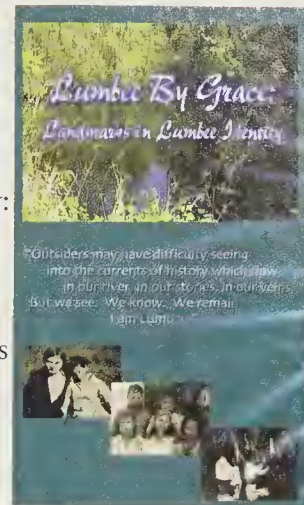
The Historic Albemarle Tour is North Carolina's oldest heritage trail. It was founded in 1975 and connects 32 historic sites and towns. Visit all of the HAT sites online, and order a brochure with a trail map at www.historicnenc.com.

Lightning Strike & Electric Shock Survivors

Lightning Strike & Electric Shock Survivors International (LS&ESSI) is a non-profit support group by and for survivors, their families and other interested parties. Headquartered in Jacksonville, the group has members throughout the United States and in 13 other countries. The group's mission is to provide a resource of support and education for survivors and their families and to promote and fund medical research to benefit the special medical problems associated with lightning strike and electric shock. LS&ESSI is an all-volunteer organization that operates from donations. For information call (910) 346-4708. Or write to P.O. Box 1156, Jacksonville, NC 28541.

Lumbee culture video

"Lumbee by Grace: Landmarks in Lumbee Identity" is a video in which Lumbee people talk about their sense of what it is to be Lumbee. Using current and archival footage, the video discusses the hallmarks of Lumbee cultural identity: home and family, the land and the river, education and Old Main (the oldest structure on the campus of UNC-Pembroke) and religion. Running time is 30 minutes. The video was produced in part by the Museum of the Native American Resource Center at UNC-Pembroke.



Videos are available for \$12.84. To purchase, send a check or money order, plus \$3 shipping to The Native American Resource Center, UNC Pembroke, P.O. Box 1510, Pembroke, NC 28372-1510. Include the video's title on your payment. For more information on this or other publications, call (910) 521-6282 or visit www.uncp.edu/nativemuseum/shop/index.htm

N.C. Arts Council wins Presidential Award

The N.C. Arts Council was awarded the first Preserve America Heritage Tourism Award by President and Mrs. Bush in a ceremony in the Oval Office. The award was given to recognize the work of the Arts Council and its partners on the Blue Ridge Heritage Initiative, which promotes the cultural heritage of the southern Appalachian Mountains.



Four heritage trails of the Initiative are at the heart of the 2003 designation of 25 counties in western North Carolina as a National Heritage Area. These trails are: Blue Ridge Music Trail, Cherokee Heritage Trail, Craft Heritage Trails of Western North Carolina and Farms, Gardens, and Countryside Trails of Western North Carolina. The themed self-driving trails include guidebooks and Web sites that explore cultural stories of the southern mountains.

Pictured with the President and First Lady are Arts Council Executive Director Mary Regan and Arts Council Folklife Director Wayne Martin.

Read more about the Blue Ridge Heritage Initiative at www.ncarts.org/places_blueridge.cfm. Call (919) 733-2111. Visit the N.C. Arts Council at www.ncarts.org.



Wild Ponies of the Outer Banks

Art by M. Theresa Brown

Theresa Brown is an artist and member of Wake EMC. She has produced a series of paintings showing the wild horses of Shackleford Banks near Cape Lookout.

Theresa and her artist husband, Stephen Filarsky, have a studio and gallery in Wake Forest. They offer portraits, art classes for young people and adults, and frequently travel to public events where they paint or draw portraits.

Prints in the "Wild Ponies of the Outer Banks" series are for sale. There are five scenes in the series. You can see them at the Web site www.artstudio205.com/prints/wildponies. A portion of the proceeds benefits the Foundation for the Shackleford Horses, Inc., a non-profit organization working with the National Park Service to preserve the horses and their environment. Prints measure 11 by 14 inches and cost \$40 each, plus \$2.95 shipping.

Contact ArtStudio205 at P.O. Box 337, Franklinton, NC 27525. Phone: (919) 528-9703. E-mail: prints@artstudio205.com Web: www.artstudio205.com

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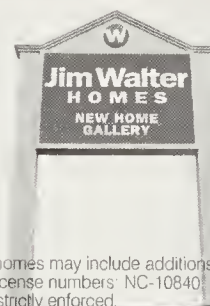
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After a brief vacation, Ol' Big Boy returns home

By Jean Tripp

In the April 2004 issue of *Carolina Country*, you printed stories that people sent in about their most memorable camping trips. A young man, Michael Wade of Pikeville, submitted an article and picture of a mounted bear he and his father found while camping on Little River.

When I saw this article, I was ecstatic. This was our bear that had been stolen from my son's home early in the summer of 2003. Let me tell you the story of Ol' Big Boy.

On Dec. 13, 1999, three of our sons were hunting in Craven County, and Jay shot his first bear. He didn't kill the bear, so they began tracking him through scrub timber and overgrown thickets. Chris stayed out at the road in case the bear circled back. Phil and Jay crawled to a ditch and could hear the bear breathing down in the ditch. Phil is the smallest and bravest, so he crawled down into the ditch and fired a shot. This aroused the bear, who ambled off through the woods once more. At last, he did circle back to the road and Chris killed him.

The bear weighed 535 pounds, so they faced the challenge of how to load him on the truck. With help from friends and much grunting, they got him loaded and carried him to the skinning shack. After he was dressed, we took the head and hide to a taxidermy shop to have a three-quarter mount done. He was so large, and the taxidermist was so busy, it took a year to get him back. I paid the cost of the mount since it was Jay's first bear and all of the boys were

involved in finally getting the bear.

When we got the bear home, he was too large to put in Jay's living room so we took him to Magnum Telemetry, our son Gary's business in Grifton, and hung him on the wall. Since this is an electronic tracking business, many hunters came in to admire him during the next two years.

In late May of 2003, the mounted bear suddenly fell off the wall and damaged his mouth. We called the taxidermist,

closed and the taxidermist had gone fishing.

Chris took the bear home with him and put him into the barn. The barn was burglarized the next night. The bear was gone forever, or so we thought.

We had never heard a word from anyone concerning the bear or other missing property. We called local taxidermists and law enforcement to no avail.

Then on a Saturday night in April, I



Jean Tripp took this photo of Michael Wade the day she and her husband told Ol' Big Boy it was time to come home.

who told us to bring him in for repair. Chris came to Grifton to get the bear, and he and Gary loaded him into the body of his truck to haul him to the taxidermist. It takes two adult men to handle the mount due to its size and weight, and by the time Chris arrived at the taxidermist shop, the shop had

was reading your magazine and saw a picture of Ol' Big Boy. Needless to say, I was so excited! I had no idea how to get in touch with Michael Wade, the author of the article. I began calling the Wades listed in the Goldsboro telephone book. On Sunday morning, before leaving for church, I called a Wade number and it



Michael Wade sent this photo of Ol' Big Boy to Carolina Country to accompany the story of his most memorable camping trip in the summer of 2003.

was Michael's grandmother. I explained to her that I felt sure this was our bear, Ol' Big Boy. She told us to come Sunday afternoon and talk with her son and grandson, and if indeed it was our bear, we could probably take him home. I didn't tell the boys because I had to be sure it was Ol' Big Boy.

My husband, Phillip, and I went to Pikeville, and we knew immediately it was our bear because the damage to his mouth was still apparent. Michael Wade had rescued him from the river, cleaned his fur, and kept him in good condition since the early summer of 2003.

Coincidentally, I had been driving to work in Princeton, within three miles of where Ol' Big Boy had been living in Pikeville and never knew he was there.

We loaded him into the truck one more time and headed back to Kinston. He now hangs on the wall at this "Mama Bear's" house with your magazine article framed beside him. Thank you so much for your part in bringing him home.

On many occasions, our family talked about the possibilities of his whereabouts. Now we are so glad to have him home. This mount is a once-in-a-lifetime prize for Jay. Our grandchildren enjoy touching Ol' Big Boy's nose and paws.

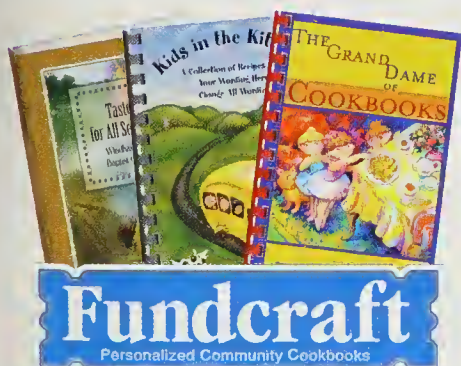
The story of Ol' Big Boy is one of never giving up hope, because you never know what is around the next bend in the river.

Jean Tripp lives in Kinston and is a member of Pitt & Greene EMC.

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See Rounds 1-5 in the "Your Stories" section of our Web site.

From Dale Whitfield, Wake Forest

- You know the difference between a hissie fit and a conniption, and that you don't "have" them, you "pitch" them.
- If someone says he'll "be back directly," you know exactly how long it will be before he's back.
- You know "gimme some sugar" is not a request for the white, granular sweet substance that sits in a pretty little bowl on the middle of the table.
- You know instinctively that the best way to comfort a neighbor who's got trouble is to give a plate of hot fried chicken and a big bowl of cold potato salad. If the neighbor's trouble is a real crisis, you know to add a large banana puddin'.
- You know the difference between a right near and a right far place.
- A booger can be a resident of the nose, a descriptive as in "that ol' booger," a first name, or something that jumps out at you in the dark and scares you.
- You make friends while standing in lines.
- You have caught yourself lookin'.
- You don't scream obscenities at little old ladies who drive slowly on the freeway. You just say, "Bless her heart" and go your own way.

From Lisa Brown, Siloam

- You know that salet is just another name for turnip greens.
- Receipts mean recipes.
- You know what a horse egg is.
- You've played see-saw on a tobacco trailer.
- You know what the lights in a hog are. (For example, at hog-killing time, someone might say, "I want the lights out of the hog if don't nobody want 'em.")
- Snuff from your grandpa's mouth soothed a bee sting.

From Tian Rodriguez

- You love pimento cheese sandwiches.
- You mow out back and find the car you drove in high school.
- You can describe the taste of souse meat.
- A vacation is a road trip on which you look at as many old log buildings as you can fit in a two-and-a-half day schedule.



From Julie Fair, a native Charlottean

- "I use ta could" is a sentence you can understand.
- You know that those brown and black furry cater pillars are called woolly worms.
- You know the historical reason for the name Charlotte Hornets.
- You know that all of those bad drivers in Charlotte aren't from here.
- You know that a double-wide is just like a house.
- You learned square dancing in school as a form of PE.

From Vickie Cruthis, Darlene Wagoner and Marlene Hedrick, all members of EnergyUnited

- You have used kerosene or turpentine for medicinal purposes.
- You have worn ear bobs or a head rag.
- You know how to recycle a Sears catalog.
- You know that you keep your cows in a born.
- You know what window lights are, and you have washed them every spring.
- You know what it means when your momma says to "warp him one." (Our momma had a dog that would jump up on visitors, and she would say, "Roll up that newspaper and warp him one.")

From Becky Willard, Mocksville, Energy United member

- You've gone sledding on an old car hood.
- You know how to make your own livermush and chow chow.

From Crystal Hopkins, Washington

- You are at work and it starts to rain, but you know the neighbor will get your clothes off the line.
- You know Monday is wash day.
- You take your shoes off to walk through mud puddles.

From Sammy Bailey, Wingate

- You know what hose pipes and drop cords are.

From Kimberly Shoffner, Seagrove

- Before using anything that runs on an engine, you have to work at least an hour on it.
- Your grandparents ask, "How do ya like them apples?"



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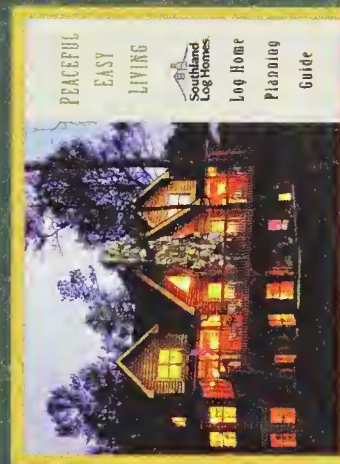
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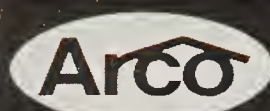
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Oh, Henry!



Answers on page 41



Letters have been substituted for digits in this multiplication problem. Given $G=0$, can you replace the digits to show how much is ENOUGH?

WORD —WARD—WARY—PRAY— PLAY

To change SOUND to MUSIC you must drop a letter, change a letter, or add a letter in each step. Letters can be rearranged in any step.

SOUND

- — — — demands payment of a debt
- — — — the earth revolves around it
- — — — to total
- — — — impure matter

MUSIC

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Of all sad words of tongue or pen,
perhaps the saddest must have been,
"Your check is in the mail."

Breathes there a man with soul so dead,
who never to himself has said,
"I'll charge this, though I'm in the red,
my check is in the mail."

Chris Columbo, that stout fella,
was assured by Isabella,
"Sail on, sail on, go on and sail;
Ferd says your check is in the mail."

At his last stand, did Custer say,
"I'm sure that help is on the way—
I'll live to charge another day—
The check is in the mail."?

And did Sir Robert Falcon Scott,
ere dying in a polar region,
join all of those whose names are legion,
whose checks are in the mail?

MacArthur, when he left Bataan,
a sadder but a wiser man,
was heard to say, before he ran,
"My check is in the mail."

Under the wide and starry sky,
dig my grave and let me LIE;
I'll believe until I die,
my check is in the mail.

This be the verse you 'grave for me:
"He lived 'til he was ninety-three,
and died, as sure as he could be,
his check was in the mail.

—C.G.J.

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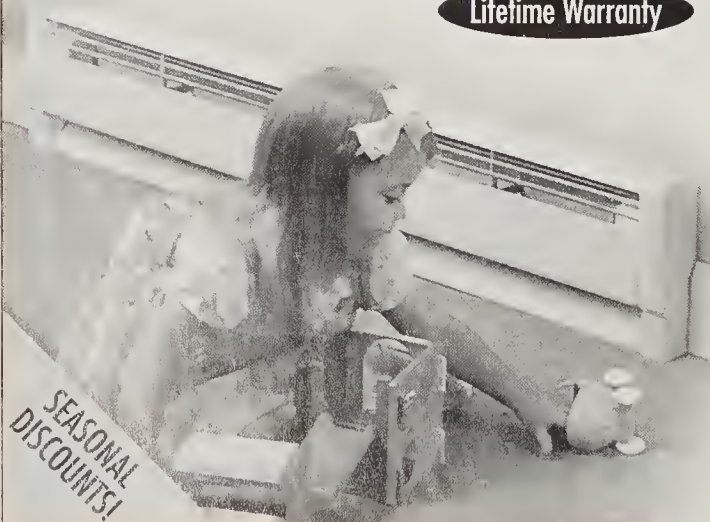
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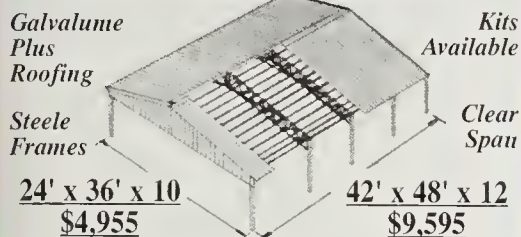
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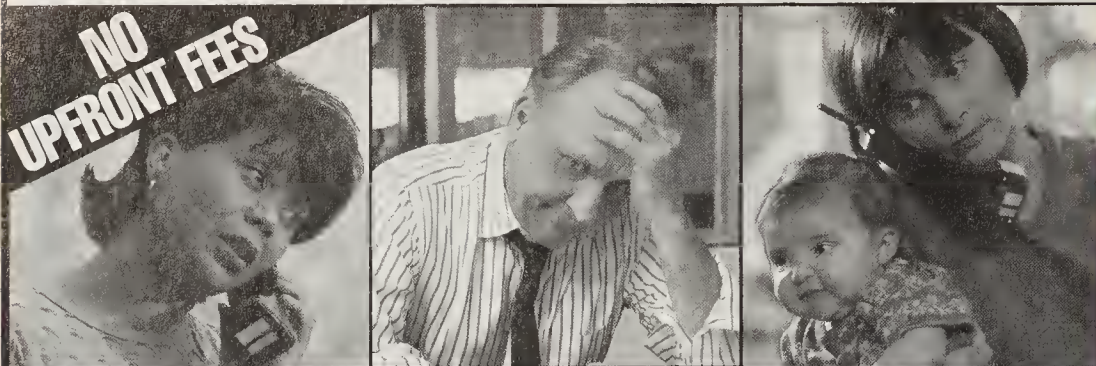
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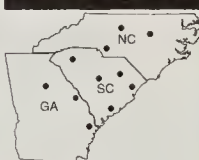
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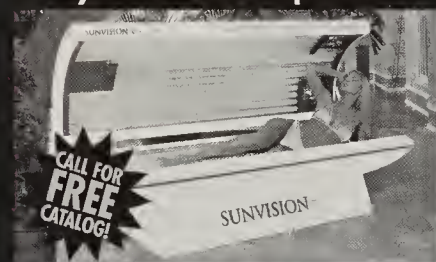
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Chicken Festival

Sept. 18, Siler City
(919) 742-3333

Stokes Stomp, Festival on the Dan

Sept. 18-19, Danbury
(336) 593-8159

Craft Fair

Sept. 18, Foscoe
(919) 542-7442

Charlie Chiklis & the Moonlighters

Big Band, Jazz
Sept. 19, Raleigh
(919) 662-5704

Mule Days

Sept. 23-26, Benson
(919) 894-3825
www.bensonmuledays.com

Jim Brickman

Piano concert
Sept. 24, Winston-Salem
(336) 721-1945
www.tickets.com

Quilt Show

Sept. 24-25, Pinehurst
(910) 295-6768

Antique Car Show

Sept. 25, Pinehurst
(910) 235-8456

Seagrove Pottery Fair

Sept. 25, Seagrove
(336) 873-7258

(continued on pg.36)

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

(continued from pg.35)



Bost Grist Mill near Concord was established in 1810 and is one of the oldest commercial establishments in Cabarrus County. Today, the mill specializes in the traditional grinding of yellow and white corn into cornmeal and grits. The mill plays host to a variety of special events including Sunday ice cream socials through Oct. 3 and Civil War re-enactments Sept. 11-12.

Today & Yesteryear Festival

Sept. 25, Apex
(919) 362-6456

Fall Rose Show

Sept. 25, Kings Mountain
(704) 739-3079

Autumn Arts Festival

Sept. 25, Wake Forest
(919) 556-3182
www.wakeforestdowntown.com

Fall Festival

Prospect UMC
Sept. 25, Ebony, Va.
(434) 636-2494

Burn & Scrape Woodworking

Sept. 25, Huntersville
(704) 875-2312

Ice Cream Socials

Bost Grist Mill
Sundays through Oct. 3,
Concord
(704) 782-1600
www.bostgristmill.com

COAST (EAST OF I-95)

Ronnie Kole Trio

Jazz piano
Sept. 2, Goldsboro
(919) 735-2074

"Elizabeth R"

A dramatic performance
Sept. 3, Manteo
(252) 475-1506
www.roanokeisland.com

PBR Hump & Horn Tour

Sept. 3-4, Williamston
(704) 621-9303

Shrimp Festival

Sept. 4, Edenton
(252) 482-4057

Beach Music & BBQ

Sept. 5, Wilson
(252) 243-7469

Stock Horse Sale

Sept. 10-11, Williamston
(888) 828-7653

"Bloody Mary"

Musical farce
Sept. 10, Manteo
(252) 475-1506
www.roanokeisland.com

Indian Summer Festival

Sept. 11, Hertford & Winfall
(252) 426-5657

Hearth & Harvest Festival

Newbold-White House
Sept. 11, Hertford
(252) 426-3041

Historical Society Fun Day

Sept. 11, Bladenboro
(910) 863-4707

Bald is Beautiful Convention

Sept. 12-13, Morehead City
(252) 726-1004

Bridal & Home Show

Sept. 12, Williamston
(252) 792-1181

Music in the Streets

Sept. 17, Washington
(252) 946-9168
www.originalwashington.com

Williamston Homecoming

Sept. 18-19, Williamston
(800) 776-8566

Eastern Hunter Horse Show

Sept. 18-19, Williamston
(252) 916-7822

King Neptune Ball

Sept. 20, Atlantic Beach
(252) 726-6273

Build a Boat

Sept. 21, Beaufort
(252) 728-7317

Country Stampede

Sept. 24-25, Williamston
(800) 776-8566

Sunnyside Open Horse Show

Sept. 24-26, Williamston
(252) 799-0334

Chowan County Fair

Sept. 28 – Oct. 2, Edenton
(252) 482-4057

U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament

Sept. 30 – Oct. 2, Southport
(910) 457-6964
www.usopenkmt.com

LISTING INFORMATION

Deadline for Nov: Sept 25

Deadline for Dec: Oct 25

Submit Listings on Our Web Site

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our Web site.

Or Submit Listings by Mail, Fax or

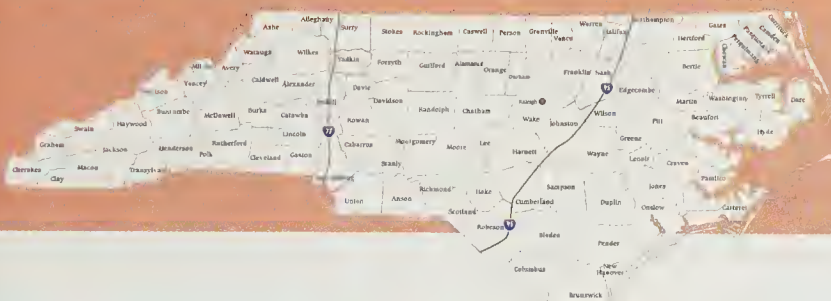
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Jefferson

Ashe Arts Center
(336) 846-2787

www.ashecountyarts.org

High Country Quilt Show

Through Oct. 2, Maggie
Valley
(828) 926-6003

PIEDMONT

Tech City

Museum of Life and Science
Through Sept. 6, Durham
(919) 220-5429

www.ncmls.org

Maja Godlewska: New Works

Painting on fine linen
The Lassiter Gallery
Through Sept. 30, Charlotte
(704) 373-1464

www.lassitergallery.com

Pigs in the City II

Through October 20,
Lexington
(336) 249-0383

www.uptownlexington.com

Katsumi Murakami exhibit

Japanese sculptor
Fayetteville Museum of Art
Through Nov. 7, Fayetteville
(800) 255-8217

www.fayettevillemuseumart.org

Soldiers: The Global War on Terror

The Airborne & Special
Operations Museum
Through Dec. 2004,
Fayetteville
(800) 255-8217

www.asomf.org

The Nature and Craft of the Penland Experience

Mint Museum of Craft +
Design
Through Jan. 2005,
Charlotte
(704) 337-2066

www.mintmuseum.org

Main Streets of Our State

The Charlotte Museum of
History
Through Jan. 2, 2005,
Charlotte
(704) 568-1774

www.charlottesmuseum.org

Treasures Unearthed: NC's Spectacular Gems & Minerals

N.C. Museum of Natural
Sciences
Through June 12, 2005,
Raleigh
(919) 733-7450

www.naturalsciences.org

COAST

20th Century Exhibits

Cape Fear Museum
Ongoing, Wilmington
(910) 341-4350

Portsmouth Village Photos

N.C. Maritime Museum
Through October 26,
Beaufort
(252) 728-7317

www.ncmm-friends.org

Politics in Action

Cape Fear Museum
Through Nov. 28,
Wilmington
(910) 341-4350

www.capefearmuseum.com



An emerald from the exhibit, "Treasures Unearthed: NC's Spectacular Gems & Minerals" at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh. Emeralds are often prized for their imperfections, which prove their natural pedigree. The needle-shaped mineral embedded in this crystal is distinctive to emeralds from Alexander County.



"Pigs in the City II" features 25 hand-painted, life-size pigs on exhibit throughout Lexington's historic district. Hoofin' Maps and Piggy Passports are available at local retail shops.

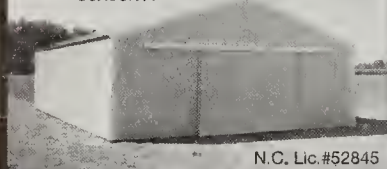
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In late summer and early fall "look-ahead" chores become enjoyable projects. Late summer and early autumn vegetable and flower gardens require attention. Soon it will be time for planting many types of trees and woody shrubs, because they adjust more easily to their new homes when planted in autumn and winter.

"Dog Days" for dogwoods

One of the most popular trees to produce showy blooms is the flowering dogwood. In the spring, *Cornus florida* produce showy white blooms that surround the small pollen-producing flower at base of the white petals. In late summer and autumn, leaves turn a red-tinted color with masses of red berries. The "Cherokee Brave" variety has reddish petals with white centers. "Barton" blooms at a young age, accenting early-flowering annuals and perennials. "Appalachian Spring" resists dogwood anthracnose. "Cloud Nine" is similar to "Barton" and is mildew-resistant. It's best to choose named varieties rather than unnamed seedlings. Although seedlings may be less expensive, named selections bloom better and are more resistant to insects and diseases.

Pink and red flowering trees are available. They're sometimes used to accent colors in flower beds. Dogwoods grow best in well-drained soil with lots of organic matter. They prefer full sun or light shade. Trees need be watered thoroughly during dry spells, especially young trees. Dogwoods are well adapted to the upper, middle, lower and coastal South. Avoid planting beneath dripping trees, as this may contribute to powdery mildew, leaf spot and anthracnose fungus. This fungus disease causes tan blotches on leaves and twig dieback. The native woodland habitat for flowering dogwood is in the light, high shade of tall trees such as pine trees. A light afternoon shade is especially beneficial in the lower and coastal South.

Crape or crepe myrtle

Many horticulturists prefer to spell "crepe" myrtle, instead of "crape" myrtle, because the bloom is similar in form to crepe material. As these plants go out of bloom, faded flowers can be cut away, and new flower buds will form. This plant is best when



Hardy calanthe orchid (*Calanthe tricarinata*) is a hardy early spring flowering orchid. It bears 15-inch spikes of yellow flowers with reddish-brown lips. It grows best in under woodland conditions in moist but well-drained soil. Foliage is evergreen in mild winters but the plant may become deciduous when temperatures approach 10 degrees F.

grown as a small deciduous tree instead of cutting it back severely in autumn. There are some cities and towns prohibit businesses from cutting the plants back severely. Some nurseries carry a semi-dwarf form that's useful in shrubbery borders.

Natural insect control

Birds are a great help in controlling insects. Some birds can eat their weight in insects each day. Toads, moles, skunks and some species of snakes depend almost entirely upon insects for their food. Some predatory parasites also contribute to insect control. These insects are harmless to the gardener but prey upon other insects that harm flower and vegetable gardens. Insect parasites imported from Europe and Asia helped control the gypsy moth. The Australian Lady Beetle was imported to help control cottony cushion scale, which was especially bad on citrus trees. Two imported natural parasites have helped to bring the Japanese beetle under control. One is a parasitic fly which lays its eggs upon the adult beetle, and the larvae bore their way into the body of the beetle. The other is a parasitic wasp which attacks the beetle in its larva stage.

HORT shorts

✂ Dogwoods contribute a beautiful accent to yard landscapes. When mowing the lawn or using a grass edger, take care not to cut the bark of trees, as that attracts borers that can damage the tree.

✂ "Hardy William Baffin" roses throw 10-foot tall canes of single dark pink

blossoms from June through September. They require a background support, such as a tall fence or trellis.

✂ Southern magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*) is one of the most popular landscape trees in the South. This evergreen grows to 50 feet tall in the South, 30 feet in the North. Large fra-

grant white blooms appear in June and July. The small flower at base of the petals is of reproductive nature. This is where the seeds appear in autumn. When lower branches are cut away, a ground-cover is useful to cover the shaded area where grass is difficult to grow. Magnolias require rich, damp soil.

✂ Plants that bring good luck — like lucky bamboo and money tree — continue to gain popularity along with elegant orchids and other tropical plants. Ferns, once popular in the '60's and '70's are making a comeback (minus the macramé hangers).

For more September gardening advice, go to the "Carolina Gardens" section of carolinacountry.com



Vinyl windows have their advantages

By James Dulley

In shopping for efficient vinyl replacement windows, one consideration is whether or not to purchase from a local manufacturer or a major national company. There are many local and smaller regional vinyl replacement window manufacturers throughout the country. Many of these smaller companies make vinyl windows equal to or better than some of the major national manufacturers. However, not all do so you have to be selective.

The vinyl replacement windows I installed in my own home 12 years ago were manufactured by a regional company. I have had absolutely no problems or seal failures. The obvious advantage of using a local company, or a large company with a regional office in your area, is you can actually visit them if you have problems. When a tornado hit here several years ago and tree limbs crashed into the screens, I was able to stop by the manufacturer to pick up new screen clips.

There can be a great variation in the quality of vinyl windows. Some of the major manufacturers offer window product lines of different qualities with different warranties and prices. Within an individual manufacturer's product line, price is often a good indicator of quality, although when comparing the windows of several different manufacturers, price is not always the best comparison.



Tilt-in windows are easy to clean.

around to clean the outside of the fixed one.

When comparing various vinyl windows, look at a sample cross-section of the frame and ask about the vinyl thickness. Greater thickness and more interior webs are indications of better quality and rigidity, especially useful in hot weather where dark frame colors are exposed to the afternoon sun. For large vinyl windows, interior metal reinforcing rods are often used to increase frame rigidity.

Make sure the window sashes have welded corners and are not just screwed together. Almost all good quality vinyl windows have welded corners. If the corners are just screwed together, the corners may become loose with the natural expansion and contraction of vinyl with temperature changes throughout the year. Welded corners in the main window frame are also good.

Some vinyl windows, such as mine, have insulating foam inside the hollow vinyl frame. Some companies inject polyurethane foam (best method) and others slip rigid polystyrene (similar to coolers) inside the cavity in the frame. This does increase the overall efficiency of the window assembly somewhat and makes the frame stiffer. With the interior webs that create many dead air spaces inside the frame, however, even a non-insulated vinyl frame is a fairly good insulator.

Look for an insulating spacer that separates the panes of glass. This is called "warm edge" technology because it keeps the edge of the windowpane from getting cold and sweating during the winter. Most of the major window manufacturers usually use various designs of rigid insulated spacers. Some smaller local manufacturers may still use insulating flexible swiggle strip spacers.

Take a close look at the finishing details on the windows to gauge overall quality. Check the latches on the sashes. Double latches increase security and lock the sashes closed squarely against the weather stripping. Die cast metal latches are stronger, smaller and better looking than plastic ones. On double-hung windows, interior pop-out stops add security by allowing the windows to be opened only a few inches for ventilation.

Some of the important features and design factors to compare are the thickness of the frame wall, corner assembly method, interior frame insulation, type of spacer and security. Also, when dealing with a smaller local company, check references and how long it has been in business. A lifetime warranty on a window is only effective as long as the life of the company offering the warranty.

Since you are looking for easy-to-clean windows, tilt-in double-hung styles are generally your best choice. They are not quite as energy efficient as casement windows, but the outside surface of casements can be more difficult to reach and to clean. Casement windows close and seal tightly on compression weather stripping as opposed to a sliding seal on double-hung and slider windows. Smaller sliding windows are also fairly easy to clean because you can lift out the movable sash and reach

Write for (instantly download - www.dulley.com) Utility Bills Update No. 533 - buyer's guide of the 19 most efficient one- and two-stage central air conditioners listing cooling outputs, SEERs, comfort features, warranties and a savings chart. Please include \$3.00 and a business-size SASE and send to James Dulley, Carolina Country, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244.

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Lime Angel Food Cake

- 2 eggs
- 2 egg yolks
- ½ cup plus 3 tablespoons sugar, divided
- 6 tablespoons lime juice
- 2 teaspoons grated lime peel
- ½ cup cold butter or margarine, cubed
- 1 cup whipping cream
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 prepared angel food cake (10 inches)
- 1 cup flaked coconut, toasted

In the top of a double boiler, beat eggs and yolks. Stir in ½ cup of sugar, lime juice and peel. Cook over simmering water while gradually whisking in butter. Cook and stir until mixture is thickened and reaches 160 degrees. Strain; refrigerate until completely cool. In a mixing bowl, beat cream and vanilla until stiff peaks form; gradually beat in remaining sugar. Gently fold into lime mixture.

Split cake horizontally into three layers. Place bottom layer on a serving plate. Spread ⅔ cup lime mixture. Repeat. Place top layer on cake. Frost top and sides with remaining lime mixture. Sprinkle with coconut. Refrigerate for at least 30 minutes before slicing.

Yield: 12 servings.



Sesame Cucumber Salad

- 8 cups thinly sliced cucumbers
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 2 green onions, sliced
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 2 to 3 tablespoons soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons vinegar
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 tablespoon sesame seeds, toasted
- ½ teaspoon cayenne pepper

Place cucumbers in a colander. Set the colander on a plate; sprinkle cucumbers with salt and toss. Let stand for 30 minutes. Rinse and drain well. In a bowl, combine the onions, garlic, soy sauce, vinegar, oil, sesame seeds and cayenne. Add cucumbers and toss to coat. Cover and refrigerate until serving.

Yield: 8-10 servings.



Cheesy Zucchini Rice Casserole

- 1 cup uncooked long grain rice
- 3 medium zucchini, cut into ½ inch slices
- 1 can (4 ounces) chopped green chilies
- 4 cups (16 ounces) shredded Monterey Jack cheese, divided
- 2 cups (16 ounces) sour cream
- 2 tablespoons chopped green pepper
- 2 tablespoons chopped onion
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh parsley
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 large tomato, sliced

Cook rice according to package directions. In a saucepan, cook zucchini in 1 inch of water until crisp-tender; drain and set aside. Place rice in a greased, shallow 3-quart baking dish. Layer with chilies and 1 ½ cups cheese.

In a bowl, combine the sour cream, green pepper, onion, parsley, salt and oregano. Spread over cheese. Layer with zucchini and tomato. Sprinkle with remaining cheese.

Cover and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Uncover; bake 5-10 minutes longer or until heated through and cheese is melted.

Yield: 12 servings.



Recipes are by Taste of Home magazine. For a sample copy, send \$2 to Taste of Home, Suite 4321, PO Box 990, Greendale WI 53129-0990. Visit the Web page at www.tasteofhome.com.

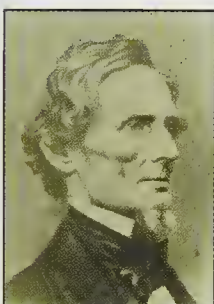
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Confederate Half Dollar Stolen from President Sells for \$632,000.00

Richmond, VA.—Headlines were made recently when a mysterious 1861 silver U.S. half dollar bearing the seal of the Confederacy sold at public auction for the incredible sum of \$632,500.00. Experts have learned it is just one of four coins produced after the United States Mint in New Orleans was seized by rebels at the start of the Civil War.

Unique Coin of Both North and South

The Confederate silver half dollar is unique because it is the only coin to have the images of both North and South on one coin. One side has the United States design of Miss Liberty, while the other side has a Confederate States shield and the legend: "Confederate States of America".



Jefferson Davis

One of the coins was given to the President of the Confederacy, Jefferson Davis. He carried it in his pocket as a personal "good luck" piece.

In honor of this discovery, the First Federal Mint has released a pure .999 silver Proof, die-struck in deep dimension just like the coin minted for President Jefferson Davis. The issue price is \$50.00, but for a limited time only you may acquire it at the Advance Release price of \$29.50.

Mint Ransacked by General "Beast" Butler

Union General Benjamin "Beast" Butler recaptured the New Orleans Mint from the Rebels in 1862. The "Beast" earned his nickname for his ruthless reign as military governor of New Orleans.

Panicked Confederate Mint officials had already loaded up all of the bullion from the New Orleans Mint and shipped it up the Mississippi to avoid plunder. Thus did the dream of a Confederate coinage come to an end.



General Benjamin "Beast" Butler

Stolen, Then Vanished

In 1865 Federal troops captured President Davis in Georgia. Davis hid his beloved "lucky coin" in his belongings when he was sent to Fort Monroe, Virginia. "Beast" Butler commanded the fort. When one of Butler's officers searched Davis' possessions, the precious coin was stolen. It disappeared for many years; the hands it passed through are a mystery to this day. The reappearance and sale of this legendary coin for \$632,000.00 made headlines in the collecting world.

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